

0240

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

ACC

10000 | 120 | 1009

G/31
Open
June

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

10000 | 120 | 1009

6/31/12 Weekly Log Y.O. N.W. Italy
Opened June 23, 1945. Closed Sept. 7, 1945
June - Sept. 1945

0288

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Subject: Liaison Report No 6.

CONFIDENTIAL

M.M.I.A. L.O.
N.W. Italy,
Milan.

Phone: MILAN 13989
NWI/3/G.

7 Sep.45

To: HQ. MMIA

1.- W.e.f. 10 Sep.45 the reins of office are grasped by Lt.Col.Egerton. On that date, I hand over some of the most interesting work in Italy, and I hope a "going" concern.

2.- This is my Swan Song complete. For also in that date SWANS END is shuttered up, and our remnants will sleep in the offices, until moving to a palatial villa in Milan on 15 Sep.45.

J. Bud
Major
Sr. MMIALO
N.W. Italy.

Copy to: MMIALO Turin
MMIALO Distone

MMIALO
FILE: *G/31/12*
DATE: *1/10/79* 6774

101000

CONFIDENTIAL

" G " Points

Appx. 'A' to NWI/3/G
dated 8 Sep. 45

- 1.- The Ministry of War have instructed their Terr. HQ. that the internal security Bdes will be as follows:

Bde HQ.
Arty Gp.
Four Inf. Bns.

- 2.- Under Ministry of War instructions 502 Gd Bn remains in Milan as nucleus of 3 Terr. Sec. Bde, and does NOT move to Genoa to the remainder of 1 Gd. Regt.

" A " Points

Appx. 'B' to NWI/3/G
dated 8 Sep. 45.

Rft. question discussed and classified with Col. Pidsley during visit.

" Q " Points

Appx. 'C' to NWI/3/G
dated 8 Sep. 45

Accn problems will definitely arise if Terr. HQ. attempt to concentrate Int. Sec. Bdes inside TURIN, MILAN and GENOA. Barrack accn is however readily available in the country districts.

Appx. 'B' to NWI/3/G
dated 8 Sep. 45.

Rft. question discussed and classified with Col. Pidsley
during visit.

" Q " Points

Appx. 'C' to NWI/3/G
dated 8 Sep. 45

Accn problems will definitely arise if Terr. HQ. attempt to
concentrate Int. Sec. Bdes inside TURIN, MILAN and GENOA.
Barrack accn is however readily available in the country
districts.

6773

10 2 5 0

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Subject:- Liaison Report No. 5.

SECRET

M.M.I.A. L.O.,
N.W. Italy,
MILAN.

Phone: MILAN 13989.
NWI/3/G.

25th. August, 1945.

To:- Land Forces Sub Com. A.C.(4).
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.

Ref M.M.I.A. Office Instruction No. 96.

1. Sad blows have fallen upon M.M.I.A. N.W. Italy since the last report was written, and it would be idle to pretend that efficiency, particularly with regard to the smaller details, will not suffer. The departure of Capt. CLARK, the imminent departure of Maj. MONICO, Maj. KYLE and Gdsm. BABB, with no replacements in view mean three things: firstly full attention will continue to be given to implementation and fulfilment of policy; secondly more and more local details will be referred direct by Allied HQs through Italian attached liaison officers, to Terr HQ and the reverse; thirdly Terr HQ will be encouraged to write to the Ministry of War for reference to HQ, M.M.I.A. on all matters where a fresh directive is required, rather than to M.M.I.A. L.O.s.

This will not unduly delay action, as Italian mail from this area should not take more than FOUR days to reach the War Ministry. Moreover I feel that the more Italian HQ intercommunicate and learn to stand on their own feet vis-a-vis Allied HQ, the more is the intention to give them further independence forwarded.

2. The main task of organising N.W. Italy, and establishing the authority and functions of Territorial Headquarters, has now been completed. On the other hand the infinite details of consolidation, of collection, of distribution, of movement and in fact of normal activity are steadily increasing. Italian I.S. Bdes are being formed, and their training is to be supervised by M.M.I.A. L.O.s. CEMS is organised, and M.M.I.A. L.O.s are required to ensure collection of Italian materials from here, there and everywhere and

1. Sad blows have fallen upon M.M.I.A. N.W. Italy since the last report was written, and it would be idle to pretend that efficiency, particularly with regard to the smaller details, will not suffer. The departure of Capt. CLARK, the imminent departure of Maj. MONICO, Maj. KYLE and Gdsm. BABB, with no replacements in view mean three things: firstly full attention will continue to be given to implementation and fulfilment of policy; secondly more and more local details will be referred direct by Allied HQs through Italian attached liaison officers, to Terr HQ and the reverse; thirdly Terr HQ will be encouraged to write to the Ministry of War for reference to HQ, M.M.I.A. on all matters where a fresh directive is required, rather than to M.M.I.A. L.O.s.

This will not unduly delay action, as Italian mail from this area should not take more than FOUR days to reach the War Ministry. Moreover I feel that the more Italian HQ intercommunicate and learn to stand on their own feet vis-a-vis Allied HQ, the more is the intention to give them further independence forwarded.

2. The main task of organising N.W. Italy, and establishing the authority and functions of Territorial Headquarters, has now been completed. On the other hand the infinite details of consolidation, of collection, of distribution, of movement and in fact of normal activity are steadily increasing. Italian I.S. Bdes are being formed, and their training is to be supervised by M.M.I.A. L.O.s. OEMS is organised, and M.M.I.A. L.O.s are required to ensure collection of Italian materials from here, there and everywhere and in some cases to inspect it, (and we have no ORD officer), Italian Clothing Depots are inventoried and reported, and the normal shipments to other areas have started. Feeding from Italian sources has begun, with consequent extra Italian movements, extra checking, extra calls upon Italian transport, without compensating increases in holdings. Accommodation problems never cease; disciplinary ones are on the upward surge. Still to be tackled, are the A.M.G. held Italian Army vehicles, the masses of loose ammunition lying around, accommodation in MILAN for an Italian B.S.D.

6772

2/.....

FILE: C/3/12
DATE: AUG 27

270910

10-2-5-8

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

3. The foregoing paragraph is not written with the purpose of producing a picture of a fight against overwhelming odds. Far from it, but I do ask indulgence, if we cannot satisfy everyone all the time with the promptness of our actions, or the carefulness of our enquiries. For we are at the same time increasing our territory, and losing our personnel. This central office, for instance, is now, myself and Captain FOX. Our tasks are, or seem likely to be, five Terr HQ (and MILAN in particular), 231 Div, ~~five~~ Combat Groups, HQ 2 District, HQ 59 Area, A.M.G. Lombardia, and in future A.C. BOLZANO has no M.M.I.A. L.O., and is a tricky place (see appx 'A'). BOLOGNA is happy under Captain BOURNE who also has 209 Div under his wing. We are all cheerful warriors, indeed veterans of M.M.I.A. and quite undaunted, but - and please excuse me, if I put it this way - may a staff examination please be made of the detailed work at present required from M.M.I.A. L.O.s to see if the work can be lightened in some way to accord with our numbers. We are very thin on the ground. BIRD and FOX at MILAN, O'DONNELL at TURIN, BENATTI at GENOA, BOURNE at PADUA, CRAWFORD at MESTRE, and we are the brains, eyes, and ears of everywhere north of the Appenines.

4. Turning to the lighter side, we are still villa-conscious. An exhaustive search has been made by A.C. for an alternative to Col FISKE'S abode. ~~NO~~ unoccupied ones have come to light, but a large, and extremely pleasant villa was found to be occupied only by three officers from A.F.H.Q. Enquiries elicited that they were rarely in residence, but on being approached, said that they were keeping it as a "pied-a-terre" for C-inc. Hence protracted enquiries, conducted by Brig. MATTHEWS, with the following reply "The Field Marshall does not, never did, never will want the villa." Have we the face to occupy it ourselves now with two officers and three men? I think we have. So maybe SWANS' END will be nearer the delights of town, and guests will be as welcome as ever. But may I please make a plea? We have just faced a bill of 300 lire for guests' laundry. So any contributions, however small, will be willingly accepted.

Wid
Major,

be made of the detailed work at present required from M.M.I.A. L.O.s to see if the work can be lightened in some way to accord with our numbers. We are very thin on the ground. BIRD and FOX at MILAN, O'LONNELL at TURIN, BENATTI at GENOA, BOURNE at PADUA, CHAWFORD at MESTRE, and we are the brains, eyes, and ears of everywhere north of the Appenines.

4. Turning to the lighter side, we are still villa-conscious. An exhaustive search has been made by A.C. for an alternative to Col FISKE'S abode. Most unoccupied ones have come to light, but a large, and extremely pleasant villa was found to be occupied only by three officers from A.F.H.Q. Enquiries elicited that they were rarely in residence, but on being approached, said that they were keeping it as a "pied-a-terre" for C-inc. Hence protracted enquiries, conducted by Brig. MATTHEWS, with the following reply "The Field Marshall does not, never did, never will want the villa." Have we the face to occupy it ourselves now with two officers and three men? I think we have. So maybe SWANS' END will be nearer the delights of town, and guests will be as welcome as ever. But may I please make a plea? We have just faced a bill of 300 lire for guests' laundry. So any contributions, however small, will be willingly accepted.

Copy to:- M.M.I.A. L.O., DISTONE.

M.M.I.A. L.O., TURIN.

M.M.I.A. L.O., c/o 60 Sub Area.

Apd

Major,
Senior MMIA LO,
N.W.Italy.

6771

S E C R E T

Appendix 'A' to NWI/3/G
dated 25 Aug, 1945.

'G' Points.

Visited TURIN 17 and 18 Aug. Arising from conference, reported in Capt. O'DONNELL's Liaison Report 5, were TWO main points:-

1. The solid communist block from ALESSANDRIA, NOVARA to VARESE, well organised, and well armed. Brig. GRAHAM, 7 AGRA is going after the arms, and wanted Italian Terr HQ to help with search and vehs. I have clarified with 2 District, that the Italians have no right of search, and that only such ammunition as is covered by the A.F.H.Q. Directive is an Italian responsibility. 2 District will inform 7 AGRA accordingly.

2. Brig. GRAHAM is anxious to raise the prestige of the Italian Army. On the V-J parade in TURIN, the CC.RR were represented together with C.M.P. They received a great ovation. He intends to move one regt CREMONA plus HQ into TURIN, so that the Italian Army may be shown too. Further units of 7 AGRA will work together with Italian units to show solidarity. I have seen 2 District, and there are hopes that this will germinate, and Italian tps in other parts will be used on similar occasions, though it is emphasised that where Internal Security is concerned, naturally Allied tps will not be involved - at least primarily.

3. BOLZANO area seems a difficult area, as the population are considerably German speaking, and do not like Italians. It is for consideration whether an MMIA IO is not required there to guide Terr HQ. Indications point to this area remaining under Military Control for some period, after the Italian Government take over the remainder.

4. Gen. NARES is leaving 2 District for BERLIN. G.O.C. 1 District will take over.

5. 2 District are moving into MILAN almost immediately.

2 District will inform 7 AGRA accordingly.

2. Brig. GRAHAM is anxious to raise the prestige of the Italian Army. On the V-J parade in TURIN, the CC.RR were represented together with C.M.P. They received a great ovation. He intends to move one regt CREMONA plus HQ into TURIN, so that the Italian Army may be shown too. Further units of 7 AGRA will work together with Italian units to show solidarity. I have seen 2 District, and there are hopes that this will germinate, and Italian tps in other parts will be used on similar occasions, though it is emphasised that where Internal Security is concerned, naturally Allied tps will not be involved - at least primarily.

3. BOLZANO area seems a difficult area, as the population are considerably German speaking, and do not like Italians. It is for consideration whether an AMIA IO is not required there to guide ferr HQ. Indications point to this area remaining under Military Control for some period, after the Italian Government take over the remainder.

4. Gen. NARES is leaving 2 District for BERLIN. G.O.C. 1 District will take over.

5. 2 District are moving into MILAN almost immediately.

6770

SECRET

Appendix 'B' to NWI/3/G
dated 25th. August, 45.

'A' Points.

1. Discipline.

- (a) 3 officers and 9 O.Rs of 3 G.T. Coy are under arrest for selling W.D. petrol, and plying for fares, transporting civilians. 150,670 lire taken from suspects.
- (b) Rumour from FOLGORE. Gen MARIGI(?) was sacked for using FOLGORE tpt, even during battle, for extensive black market enterprises, and is now a wealthy man.

2. Rfts.

- (a) The offloading of USITIS, coincided with LAB 2 District plan to prepare the reduction of Pnr units by:-
 - (i) Putting all good men into selected Coys, and thus bringing up to strength.
 - (ii) Retaining other Coys on paper strength only, pending A.F.H.Q. reduction of units.

The scheme has of course been upset by the large influx of unskilled men, suitable only for Pnrs.

- (b) Slight shortages of Engrs and other specialists still exist.

3. Demobilisation.

No news yet received by ITALIAN HQ from Ministry of War of demob 1915 class.

0 2 5 8

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

S E C R E T

Appendix 'C' to NWI/3/G
dated 25th. August, 45.

'Q' Points.

1. Accn.

It is 2 District's proposed intention to take over some large empty Italian Army barracks in NOVARA for housing German P.W., as it is not considered a good thing to bring them into MILAN. In view of HQ, M.M.I.A.'s last directive on barracks for Germans, shall I warn 2 District off?

2. Rations.

(a) No complaints have been received from Allied quarters that Italian tps are not being fed.

(b) Feeding strength MILAN now approaching 32,500. Suggest next ST officer makes his home MILAN, where the work will be, particularly if the B.S.D. is transferred to MILAN. It will then be possible for him also to look after POL, ration movements, and other ST matters, and be in closer contact with 2 District. It is necessary also for a ST expert to find a suitable Distribution Depot, and Bulk Supply Depot in MILAN. (See Maj. KYLE's reports on these depots).

3. P.O.L.

Italians without properly endorsed work tickets continue to arrive at this office. No ticket has, or will be endorsed by this office, whatever the circumstances. In all cases the drivers are told to contact their own HQ, and say they cannot move for lack of POL, and to await results. I often wonder what happens!

2/.....

6768

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

- 2 -

4. ORD & CEM.

- (a) 2,000 rail wagons lie in MILAN goods yards, laden with all types of materials. Sorting has started. About 150 wagons per day once or twice a week, are examined. 2 District have asked for a M.M.I.A. rep to be there. But with the departure of Capt. CLARK and Maj. MONICO this is no longer feasible.
- (b) My NWI/11/Q of 23 Aug, shows a store of clothing, which we might claim at COMO. Many similar things come to light. Previously, before N.W. Italy was organised, we just collected. Now we have to claim in detail from CEM 2 District. An ORD, or in fact any additional officer, here would be useful, as all requests for CEM in 2 District, that are not bid for by HQ, M.M.I.A., will be channelled through this office. There is still more detailed work to do here, particularly as our "free booting" days are over.

Subject:- Liaison Report No. 4.

SECRET

M.M.I.A. L.O.,
N.W. Italy,
MILAN.

Phone: MILAN 13989.

NWI/3/G.

4th. August, 1945.

To:- Land Forces Sub Com. A.C. (4)
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.

Ref M.M.I.A. Office Instruction No. 96.

1. The optimism expressed in Report No. 3 seems well founded. The authority and prestige of the three Terr HQs are increasing. Their efficiency is improving, and is near "normal." The first real test is 6 Aug when they start their own feeding, and I believe they will work adequately, after the initial expected mistakes are rectified.

2. M.M.I.A. N.W. Italy Mess is fast setting the name "SWANS END." But it is only fair to warn HQ of our high sickness rate. Capt. CLARK fell ill at TURIN, recovered in MILAN, and is now transferred to ROME. Capt. O'DONNELL was a casualty for a short while, before going to TURIN. Major NEWTON fell ill on his second day here, returned yesterday, and goes on recuperation leave on Monday. L/Bdr. LEWIS, Gdsm. BABB and Fus. WIGGINS have all been indisposed in succession. Veh casualties have been high, but the addition of a Jeep, now with Maj. KYLE, and Maj. EDWARDS' Repair Shops prevented immobility.

3. Att at Appx 'A', 'B' and 'C' are 'G', 'A' and 'Q' reports respectively, including 231 Div news. These do not include information already covered by departmental letters.

Major,

1. The optimism expressed in Report No. 3 seems well founded. The authority and prestige of the three Terr HQs are increasing. Their efficiency is improving, and is near "normal." The first real test is 6 Aug when they start their own feeding, and I believe they will work adequately, after the initial expected mistakes are rectified.

2. M.M.I.A. N.W. Italy Mess is fast getting the name "SWANS END." But it is only fair to warn HQ of our high sickness rate. Capt. CLARK fell ill at TURIN, recovered in MILAN, and is now transferred to ROME. Capt. O'DONNELL was a casualty for a short while, before going to TURIN. Major NEWTON fell ill on his second day here, returned yesterday, and goes on recuperation leave on Monday. L/Bdr. LEWIS, Gdsm. BABB and Fus. WIGGINS have all been indisposed in succession. Veh casualties have been high, but the addition of a Jeep, now with Maj. KYLE, and Maj. EDWARDS' Repair Shops prevented immobility.

3. Att at Appx 'A', 'B' and 'C' are 'G', 'A' and 'Q' reports respectively, including 231 Div news. These do not include information already covered by departmental letters.

JGB/gb

JGB
Major,
Sr MIA LO,
N.W. Italy.

Copy to:- M.M.I.A. L.O., Fifth Army.
M.M.I.A. L.O., TURIN.
M.M.I.A. L.O., c/o 60 Sub Area.

6766

MMIA-C

FILE:	G	31	12
DATE:	R	10	96

10 2 6 2

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SECRET.

Appx 'A' to NWI/3/G
dated 4th. July, 45.

'G' POINTS.

- (a) On 26 July, a successful cocktail party was given by G.O.C., 2 District to Italian Senior Officers, shown in Appx 'A' para (A) to Liaison Report No. 3, less G.O.C., 2 Terr HQ who was away in ROME.
- (b) 1, 2 and 3 Terr Gd Coys have arrived at destinations. All are without vehs, as previously reported. Under separate cover, was forwarded the proposed employment of 3 Gd Coy by Terr HQ, and a request for additional tps.
- (c) On 'I' matters, Gen MARRAS feels the prestige of CC RR is rising. This is confirmed by 'I' 2 District.

Appx 'B' to NWI/3/G
dated 4th. July, 45.

'A' POINTS.

N I L

Appx 'C' to NWI/3/G
dated 4th. July, 45.

'Q' POINTS.

N I L

6765

10 2 6 3

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SECRET

M.M.I.A. L.O.,
N.W. Italy,
MILAN.

Phone: MILAN 13989.

NWI/3/G.

24th. July, 1945.

Subject:- Liaison Report No. 3.

To:- Land Forces Sub Com. A.C. (4)
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.

Ref M.M.I.A. Office Instruction No. 96.

1. Any report written on a day, when a person has heard that LIAP is near, is bound to be coloured by optimism. But a certain amount of cautious optimism is justified. The rich harvest of the North West is being gathered in. Admittedly many hands are engaged on this task, and not all to our advantage. But careful and unobtrusive collection of materials has paid full dividends. I believe, too, that there is a natural reluctance to tread on M.M.I.A.'s toes in all quarters, because of the powerful punch that lies in the background. Moreover co-operation from Allied HQ is well-founded and sincere. However, excessive optimism is tempered by political considerations, and that is where the Italian Army MUST win its greatest victory, or become a nonentity. There are many misgivings abroad on the underground activities of armed political bodies, the aftermath of the Partisan movement.

2. Capt O'DONNELL is stirring TURIN, as Capt BENATTI stirred GENOA, and the future looks healthy there. First reports show an abundance of materials there for eager hands to grasp. And vehicles are beginning to flow in, and will flow out where they are needed without delay. Separate liaison reports are submitted by the above two officers.

3. Att at Appx 'A', 'B' and 'C' are the 'G', 'A' and 'Q' reports respectively, and include remarks by Capt FOX on 231 Div.

Wid

1. Any report written on a day, when a person has heard that LIAP is near, is bound to be coloured by optimism. But a certain amount of cautious optimism is justified. The rich harvest of the North West is being gathered in. Admittedly many hands are engaged on this task, and not all to our advantage. But careful and unobtrusive collection of materials has paid full dividends. I believe, too, that there is a natural reluctance to tread on M.M.I.A.'s toes in all quarters, because of the powerful punch that lies in the background. Moreover co-operation from Allied HQ is well-founded and sincere. However, excessive optimism is tempered by political considerations, and that is where the Italian Army MUST win it's greatest victory, or become a nemantity. There are many misgivings abroad on the underground activities of armed political bodies, the aftermath of the Partisan movement.

2. Capt O'DONNELL is stirring TURIN, as Capt RENATTI stirred GENOA, and the future looks healthy there. First reports show an abundance of materials there for eager hands to grasp. And vehicles are beginning to flow in, and will flow out where they are needed without delay. Separate liaison reports are submitted by the above two officers.

3. Att at Appx 'A', 'B' and 'C' are the 'G', 'A' and 'Q' reports respectively, and include remarks by Capt FOX on 231 Div.

JGB/gb

ppid
Major,
Sr MIA LO,
N.W. Italy.

6764

Copy to:- M.M.I.A. L.O., Fifth Army.
M.M.I.A. L.O., TURIN.
M.M.I.A. L.O., c/o 60 Sub Area.

MMI.A.
FILED 8/23/42
DATE 8/27

260920

10 2 6 5

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SECRET GA

Appx 'A' to NWI/3/G
dated 24 July, 1945.

'G' POINTS.

(a) On Sunday 14 July 45, I attended a ceremony, when decorations and awards were given to the LEGNANO Div. It took place in MILAN. Among those present were the following:-

Allied: C.G. 34 Div
C. of S. 4 Corps
Brigadier S.A. Bde
GSO 2 (rep of 59 Area)
Senior M.M.I.A. L.O., N.W. Italy (rep of M.M.I.A.)
O.C. 52 B.L.U.

Italian: War Minister
G.O.C. 3 Terr HQ
G.O.C. LEGNANO
G.O.C. CC.RR. MILAN
and others.

The ceremony was most impressive, the marching and turn-out excellent. The attendance by the civilians was however negligible. The lunch afterwards exceeded the ration scale.

On Tuesday, I visited 2 District to "reprimand" the G.O.C. for non-attendance, found it had been done by his own officers - and now a cook tail party at G.O.C.'s Mess for Comds all Terr HQ, Combat Divs, 231 Div and 1 Gd Regt will take place on 26 July 45.

(b) On 'I' points, C. of S. Brig Gen LADUE 4 Corps told me that they were a little disturbed by the new ex-Partisan Special police. There were too many, too inexperienced, and too solid blocks of Communists etc. A proposal to reduce them in number has been made. But 'I' Branch 2 District have an idea that the CC RR may be disbanded and the new force become the ordinary police. So they rather cancel out.

6763

0 2 6 8

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SECRET

Appx 'B' to NWI/3/G
dated 24 July, 1945

'A' POINTS.

The take over of US-ITI personnel to reinforce units of 231 Division has just started and should not now take long to complete.

Co-operator Units are now under control but certain information re "odd bodies" employed by British formations is awaited from 2 District before the matter can be considered a "fait accompli."

6762

TO 2 6 7

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SECRET

Appx 'C' to NWI/3/G
dated 24 July, 1945

'Q' POINTS.

(231 Div notes)

Suitable accommodation has at last been found in MILAN for 231 Division. The offices - officers mess and quarters will be in one large building in the centre of the town Via MANZONI 10. The Supply Section - MT Section - 805 Transit Camp will be in an Italian Army Barracks on the western outskirts of the town. A certain amount of engineer work has to be done in the barracks - latrines, water, light etc but the office building needs only cleaning. An advance working party is here and working and I see no reason why Monday 6 August should not see the entire HQ functioning fully in MILAN. It might appear that a long time has been spent in this move but when I say that during my early enquiries from District and Area HQ's, Town Majors etc, I received no encouragement or assistance and the best the Town Major could do was to give me a list of addresses which I could not have as they were reserved for other units, I feel justly satisfied that by perseverance, I have obtained excellent premises for the Divisional HQ. At the same time I feel my effort will be somewhat wasted as no doubt the HQ will be disbanded within a matter of weeks but I could not, of course, tell HQ 231 Division of that possibility.

6761

0268

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

COPY INCOMING SIGNAL

FROM: MMIA LG MILAN

MM1630 B

TO : MMIA WOME

RESTRICTED

REF : SIS/223

REF YOUR SD 2222 OF 20 JULY (*)

H Q 221 DIV FULLY FUNCTIONING MILAN

6 AUG (*) YEARSLEY HAS ALL DETAILS

SD DISTRIBUTION:

ACTION: SD/35

INFO: A
Q (Two)
6/22/12

WJ
JV 24 July 45

6760

10-2-69

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

OUTGOING SIGNAL

FROM: MMIA
TO : 69 AREA
REF : SD 2882

Date Time
20 1430 B

CONFIDENTIAL

FOR MMIA LO (*)
REF PARA 4 APPX C TO YOUR NW 1/3/G OF 14 JUL (*)
PLEASE CONFIRM THAT H Q 221 AIM DIV IS NOW
LOCATED MILAN

PRIORITY ROUTINE

AUTHENTICATED

Kul

INTERNAL: A
Q (two)
File: SD/25
G/31/12

JV 20 Jul 45

6759

Subject:- Liaison Report No. 2.

SECRET

M.M.I.A. L.O.,
N.H. Italy,
MILAN.

Phone: MILAN 13988.

NHI/3/G.

14 July, 1945.

To:- Land Forces Sub Com. A.C. (4)
(M.M.I.A. ROME)

Ref M.M.I.A. Office Instruction No. 96.

1. Since Report No. 1 of 23rd June, there has been considerable domestic activity. Capt. O'DONNELL has recovered, and we went office hunting. The new offices in MILAN were found, requisitioned, furnished and established by 4th July. Meanwhile we had outstayed our welcome at the Transit Hotel and in the O.Rs Transit Camp and were "compelled" to take a villa temporarily on Lake COMO. Efforts to find more suitable accommodation, i.e. nearer the office, are proceeding.

2. The main events in the period 23rd June - 14th July were first the visit from Comd M.M.I.A. 5-8th July, second in quick succession Lt Col FENROSE ADST and Maj MONICO "DAQMC" 9-11th July. A short summary of the General's visit is att at Appx 'D'.

3. Capt CLARK at TURIN remains in hospital, where he has now been joined by the Italian L.O. Capt FERRO. Capt CLARK will probably be in hospital up to a further three weeks, and will then have convalescent leave. Capt O'DONNELL therefore went to TURIN on Friday 13th July to take over his duties, and Capt CLARK will eventually come to this office for light duties pending full recovery.

4. Capt FOX M.M.I.A. L.O. to 231 Div joined this office on 9th July, and is looking after BRITIS and 2 District from here. It is hoped to establish 231 Div near MILAN shortly. Capt FOX has included his remarks in this Report.

5. Maj KYLE ST L.O. heard of trouble in VENICE and will

Ref M.M.I.A. Office Instruction No. 96.

1. Since Report No. 1 of 23rd June, there has been considerable domestic activity. Capt. O'DONNELL has recovered, and we went office hunting. The new offices in MILAN were found, requisitioned, furnished and established by 4th July. Meanwhile we had outstayed our welcome at the Transit Hotel and in the O.Rs Transit Camp and were "compelled" to take a villa temporarily on Lake COMO. Efforts to find more suitable accommodation, i.e. nearer the office, are proceeding.

2. The main events in the period 23rd June - 14th. July were first the visit from Comd M.M.I.A. 5-8th July, second in quick succession Lt Col PENROSE ADST and Maj MONICO "DAQMG" 9-11th July. A short summary of the General's visit is at Appx 'D'.

3. Capt CLARK at TURIN remains in hospital, where he has now been joined by the Italian L.O. Capt FERRO. Capt CLARK will probably be in hospital up to a further three weeks, and will then have convalescent leave. Capt O'DONNELL therefore went to TURIN on Friday 13th July to take over his duties, and Capt CLARK will eventually come to this office for light duties pending full recovery.

4. Capt FOX M.M.I.A. L.O. to 231 Div joined this office on 9th July, and is looking after BRITIS and 2 District from here. It is hoped to establish 231 Div near MILAN shortly. Capt FOX has included his remarks in this Report.

5. Maj KYLE ST L.O. heard of trouble in VENICE and will probably by now have seen the ADST there. I understand he is going to operate from GENOA in future.

6. Capt BENATTI definitely has GENOA by the ears, and by all reports, the ears of GENOA.

7. Att. at Appx 'A,' 'B' and 'C' are the 'G,' 'A' and 'Q' reports.

MMIA-10
FILE 6/24/13
DATE 17/7

Major.
Senior MMIA LO
N.W. Italy.

0 2 7 2

SECRET

Appx 'A' to NWI/3/G
dated 14 July, 45

'G' POINTS.

1. (a) W.e.f. 15 July Phase 2 will be implemented in N.W. Italy.
- (b) LOMBARDY (less MANTOVA) - 59 Area with under cmd:-
LEGNANO Div
502 Gd Bn
ONE Inf Regt MANTOVA Div (under Op
cmd LEGNANO).
- (c) PIACENZA and PARMA - 215 Sub Area with under cmd:-
155 Arty Regt, MANTOVA Div (approx
20 July).
- (d) LIGURIA less IMPERIA - 60 Sub Area with under cmd:-
HQ 1 Gd Regt
503 Gd Bn less ONE Coy
519 Gd Bn
MANTOVA Div less ONE Inf Regt and 155
Arty Regt.
- (e) PIEMONTE and LIGURIA - 6 S A Armd Div with under cmd:-
CHEMONA Div.
- (f) 151 Sub Area have NO security responsibilities but
retain ONE Coy 503 Gd Bn under cmd:-

2. Details and locations of BRIT Service and Co-operator Units
under cmd 231 Adm Div HQ ~~are set at appx 18 July~~, have been forwarded under
N.W. 1 231/2-3 dated 18 July 45
3. I have been unable to gather any recent 'I' information,
but armed Partisans are now proceeded against, as brigands. A
dangerous type of propaganda has appeared on the walls as follows:-
"The CLN expresses the wishes of the people.
Whoever is against the CLN is also against the people."
More of this and democracy in Italy is still-born.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

155 Arty Regt, MANTOVA Div (approx 20 July).

(d) LIGURIA less IMPERIA - 60 Sub Area with under comd:-

HQ 1 Gd Regt

503 Gd Bn less ONE Coy

519 Gd Bn

MANTOVA Div less ONE Inf Regt and 155 Arty Regt.

(e) PIEMONTE and LIGURIA - 6 S A Armd Div with under comd:-

CHEMONA Div.

(f) 151 Sub Area have NO security responsibilities but retain ONE Coy 503 Gd Bn under comd:-

2. Details and locations of BRITI Service and Co-operator Units under comd 231 Adm Div HQ ~~are set at Appx 12~~, *have been forwarded under N.W.1 231/45 dated 12.5.145*

3. I have been unable to gather any recent 'I' information, but armed Partisans are now proceeded against, as brigands. A dangerous type of propaganda has appeared on the walls as follows:-

"The CLN expresses the wishes of the people.
Whoever is against the CLN is also against the people."

More of this and democracy in Italy is still-born.

4. Ref M.M.I.A. Office Instruction No. 96 Appx 'A'. Please amend serial 7 as under:-

6757

10 2 7 4

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

S E C R E T

Appx 'B' to NWI/3/G
dated 14 July, 45.

'A' POINTS.

1. The hopes expressed in Report No.1 in regard to the enlistment of ex-Partisans were false. Perhaps 60 in each Terr. H.Q. have been enrolled. This has caused some difficulty in rfts, but is of no real loss to the Army.
2. There is general disinterest on the part of the Italians in the Army. The swagger of the GRUPPI may do some good, unless their "thieving" propensities spoil the market.
3. The machinery for taking over US-ITIs as rfts for BR-ITI units has been 'laid on' but as yet no actual transfer has taken place. The two Divisional H.Qs concerned 231 and 210 are located within a mile or two of each other and close liaison is being maintained. It is anticipated and hoped that within a week a number will have been transferred, since most units are well below strength and 1 Guard Regt. requires over 700 rfts.
4. The absorption of Cooperator units into the Italian Army is almost complete. A senior Italian Officer from 231 Div; was sent to lecture all ranks of these units explaining their new administration. He is still away but no serious difficulties have arisen yet. Cooperator personnel i.e. general dutymen working in Area H.Qs etc. are being attached to a neighbouring unit or withdrawn as rfts for existing units in accordance with wishes of the employing formation. Full details will be forwarded on completion.
5. One det 58 Transit Camp and 805 Transit Camp under command 2 District are at present at BOLOGNA. Now that rail transport is available it is proposed to move them to MILAN where accommodation has been found.

6756

SECRET

Appx 'C' to NWI/3/G
dated 14 July, 45.

8Q' POINTS.

1. Transport.
 - (a) Terr. H.Q. efficient holdings as at 11 Jul 45:

Staff Cars	Light Load	Heavy Load
8	12	9
10 (incl Dist)	2	3
4	etc.	0
 - (b) 1 Guards Rest is now receiving British vehs, and an assortment of 17 Italian vehs will pass into our workshops.
 - (c) Maj. Edwards is submitting a separate ^{report} on recovery and output.
2. Rations.
 - (a) ADST has complete picture of availabilities. All three Terr. H.Qs had prepared premises for food depots etc. in advance, on previous instructions through this office.
 - (b) If veh recovery goes with a swing, I suggest that each Terr. H.Q. with 60 vehs will have sufficient for normal distribution, but in view of the extra demands of BSD GENOA a Spec. Trans. Coy. of 4 pls, each 24 vehs, be added to Genoa Terr. H.Q. ^{Tr}
3. Clothing and Equipment.
 - (a) An inventory of recovered items in MILAN has already been forwarded. TURIN reports large quantities which it cannot collect owing to lack of transport. We are sending 9 vehs to TURIN next week, and 5 to GENOA.
 - (b) 231 Adm. Div. are short of clothing. The consign-
ment point is MILAN. And particular needs are given below:-

4,000	prs. Boots
4,000	prs; Trousers K.D.
4,000	Shirts K.D.
8,000	prs. Socks, cotton (174,000 in Milan)
4. Accn. in Camps.

Accn in MILAN is now very tight. The last two Pnr. H.Q. brought in are being accommodated in tentage. H.Q. 2 Dist. have today given permission for an Italian Army barracks on the outskirts of the city, previously reserved for MEDLOCK, to be occupied by the Italian Military. H.Q. 231 Division will there-
fore be moving in almost at once. These barracks will accomodate the entire H.Q. including supply section and reinforcement camp. It is, however, hoped to establish the H.Q. offices in a more central position.

(b) If ven recovery was with a swing, I suggest that each Terr. H.Q. with 60 vehs will have sufficient for normal distribution, but in view of the extra demands of SSD GENOA a Spec. Trans. Coy. of 4 pls, each 24 vehs, be added to Genoa Terr. H.Q. 7/17

3. Clothing and Equipment.

(a) An inventory of recovered items in MILAN has already been forwarded. TURIN reports large quantities which it cannot collect owing to lack of transport. We are sending 9 vehs to TURIN next week, and 5 to GENOA.

(b) 231 Adm. Div. are short of clothing. The consignment point is MILAN. And particular needs are given below:-

4,000 prs. Boots
4,000 prs; Trousers K.D.
4,000 Shirts K.D.
8,000 prs. Socks, cotton (174,000 in Milan)

4. Accn. in Camps.

Accn in MILAN is now very tight. The last two Pmr. H.Q. brought in are being accommodated in tentage. H.Q. 2 Dist. have today given permission for an Italian Army barracks on the outskirts of the city, previously reserved for MEDLOCK, to be occupied by the Italian Military. H.Q. 231 Division will therefore be moving in almost at once. These barracks will accommodate the entire H.Q. including supply section and reinforcement camp. It is, however, hoped to establish the H.Q. offices in a more central position.

6755

SECRET

Appx 'D' to NWI/3/G
dated July, 45.

Visit by Comd. MAIA.

Date	Time	Saw	Discussed
5 Jul	1600	(arrived by car)	
6 Jul	1430	Lt. Gen. CRITTENBERGER IV Corps	Courtesy visit
6 Jul	1500	Lt. Gen. MARRAS and C. of S. 3 Terr. H.Q.	(a) Welfare-in particular the difference in treatment between disbanded Partisans and demobilised soldiers. (b) Ann dumps and disposal. (c) Vehs. if (d) Requisitioned Military property. (e) No. 3 Gd. Coy. (f) Possibility of a Military 'bus' service, and air tpt.
6 Jul	1700	Visit to veh repair shops.	
7 Jul	1000	Maj. Gen NARES and GSO 1. 2 District.	<u>Explained.</u> (a) Reduction of BRIT Service Units and peacetime strength of Army. (b) 'Interim' Force for immediate use by Italian Govt. and responsibility of Terr.Hqs. (c) Rpts-no call up-USITIS. (d) Future of Adm. Divs and BLUs, and DMT Offrs. (e) MAIA's possible future rôle. (f) Co-operators. (g) Necessity to live on our recovery program. (h) Implementation of Italian Italian's own feeding plan. (i) Pay and Penal Codes, Revision of.

(c) Vene. if
(d) Requisitioned Military property.
(e) No. 3 Gd. Coy.
(f) Possibility of a military 'bus' service, and air tpt.

6 Jul 1700 Visit to veh repair shops.

7 Jul 1000 Maj. Gen NARES and GSO l. 2 District.

Explained.

- (a) Reduction of BRITI Servic Units and peacetime strength of Army.
 - (b) 'Interim' Force for immediate use by Italian Govt. and responsibility of Terr.Hqs.
 - (c) Rfts-no call up-USITIS.
 - (d) Future of Adm. Dive and BLUs, and DAT Offrs.
 - (e) MAMIA's possible future rôle.
 - (f) Co-operators.
 - (g) Necessity to live on our recovery program.
 - (h) Implementation of ~~Italian's~~ Italian's own feeding plan.
 - (i) Pay and Panal Codes, Revision of.
- Asked by 2 District.
- (a) What reliance can be placed on ITI tps (incl COMBAT)?
 - Disposition of Allied tps calls for reliance upon ITI tps at centre.
 - (b) Trg Policy for ITI tps in future.
 - (c) Gruppi est. and what eqpt Whether to hold some eqpt as mob.stores.

7 Jul 1300 ADC departed by car. 6754

8 Jul Departed 1315 by air.

0279

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SERIAL	TITLE	NAME	UNIT	US OR BR	REMARKS	TEL
888						
7	MMIA LO NW ITALY	Maj. J. G. BIRD	Green Howards	BR		MIX
		Capt. F. J. A. CLARK	R. I. and F.	BR		
	MMIA LO HQ 231 Adm					
	Div H. Q.	Capt. G. C. FOX	R. Berks.	BR		
	(MMIA LO GENOA)	Capt. C. P. BENATTI	QMC	US		GER
		Maj. B. B. KYLE	R. A. S. C.	BR	(proposed move)	
	(MMIA LO TURIN)	Capt. E. O' DONNELL	Int. Corps.	BR		TH Sub

10 2 8 0

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

US OR BR	REMARKS	TELE NO.	SIGS ADDRESS	POSTAL ADDRESS
BR		MILAN 13988/9	MILIA LO MILAN	MILIA LO NW ITALY MILAN
BR				
BR				
US		GENOA 52278	60 SUB AREA FOR	MILIA LO c/o
BR	(proposed move)		MILIA LO	60 SUB-AREA
BR		Through 151 Sub Area	MILIA LO TURIN	MILIA LO TURIN

8650

10 2 8 1

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

2

SUBJECT: Official Mail

Land Forces Sub-Com, AG, (MMIA)

G/31/12

5 July 43

TO : MMIA LO
231 Italian Division,
c/o MMIA LO
Fifth Army.

Reference your 231/13/A of 1 July 43, para 8.

1. When Br Inor closed down, our Despatch section sent your official mail to:

LO 231 Italian Adm Div,
c/o LO 2 District.

Capt Newton had advised us of this address, and this seems to explain the delay.

2. The G/31 of 4 Jun and G/31 of 25 Jun which you mention as being in the same packet were in fact despatched on the same day: you had not been included on the original distribution of the letter of 4 Jun, and this and the subsequent amendment of 25 Jun were despatched to you together.

3. We have verified that there is little delay in despatch from Rome, and the clerks now know your correct address. If you find that your official mail is still delayed unduly, please let us know.

R/577

6752

S. Major-General,
MMIA.

Subject:- Information.

M.M.I.A. L.O.,
231 Italian Division,
c/o M.M.I.A. L.O.,
FIFTH ARMY.

Phone: 231 Ital Div
through LIGHTNING.

231/13/A.

1st. July, 1945.

To:- Land Forces Sub Com. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.

Copy to:- M.M.I.A. L.O., Rear Eighth Army.
" " " " 1 District.
" " " " 230 Division.
" " " " N.W. Italy.
" " " " FIFTH ARMY.

1. The object of this letter is to give some information about myself and my movements past and future and about 231 Div.
2. On arrival at Brit Inc, Fifth Army on Sat 23rd June I was unwanted by them. Accordingly I made arrangements to move to HQ 231 Div. This was completed by Tuesday 26th June.
3. My address and telephone No. are as above. I am in almost daily touch with Major VAN KIRK so that for the time being correspondence is best sent there for me to collect. Any urgent signals could be 'phoned to me by Major VAN KIRK's office.
4. Temporarily I am calling myself M.M.I.A. L.O. 231 Div.
5. I have already obtained permission from HQ 2 District for HQ 231 Division to move to MILAN subject to there being adequate accommodation available.
6. A representative from 231 Division is now on a "recco" in MILAN and will report to me on return. I will then seek from the appropriate authority the necessary permission to occupy any suitable premises found.
7. When the Division is finally established in MILAN I shall join the other M.M.I.A. L.O.s and become properly part of the N.W. Italy team. Meanwhile my plans are as above.

N.W. Italy.
FIFTH ARMY.

1. The object of this letter is to give some information about myself and my movements past and future and about 231 Div.
2. On arrival at Brit Inc, Fifth Army on Sat 23rd June I was unwanted by them. Accordingly I made arrangements to move to HQ 231 Div. This was completed by Tuesday 26th June.
3. My address and telephone No. are as above. I am in almost daily touch with Major VAN KIRK so that for the time being correspondence is best sent there for me to collect. Any urgent signals could be 'phoned to me by Major VAN KIRK's office.
4. Temporarily I am calling myself M.M.I.A. L.O. 231 Div.
5. I have already obtained permission from HQ 2 District for HQ 231 Division to move to MILAN subject to there being adequate accommodation available.
6. A representative from 231 Division is now on a "reccé" in MILAN and will report to me on return. I will then seek from the appropriate authority the necessary permission to occupy any suitable premises found.
7. When the Division is finally established in MILAN I shall join the other M.M.I.A. L.O.s and become properly part of the N.W. Italy team. Meanwhile may I please have my own copies of all relevant literature and may all matters appertaining to 231 Division please be sent to me. In other words until I move from here I request that everything formerly sent to M.M.I.A. L.O. Fifth Army Brit Inc, now be sent to M.M.I.A. L.O. 231 Div.
8. I have great difficulty in obtaining official mail addressed to Brit Inc. Yesterday, after much searching, I received one packet of letters from M.M.I.A. ROME. In this packet was correspondence dated 4th June up to 25th June. It would appear that letters are being held up in ROME until a number are ready to be mailed. In this packet was your G/31 of 4th June also your G/31 of 21st June. May this please be looked into as it is very unsatisfactory from this end.

M.M.I.A. 'G'	
FILE: G/31/12	3/7
D.T.:	

6751

2/.....

10 2 8 4

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

18

2

9. I have prepared a list of units which remain under command 231 Div and a further list of units which pass to the N.E. Italy Adm Divs. It is proposed to agree these with the respective M.M.I.A. L.O.s and as soon as an agreement is reached the lists will be forwarded to you.

C. J. A. Capt.
M.M.I. LO,
231 Italian Division.

0 2 8 5

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

231 Italian Division.

6750

Subject :- Liason Report No.1.

H.Q. M.M.I.A.

ZDLO/3/G/1

SECRET

MILIA L.O.

c/o H.Q. 2 District.

23 Jun. 45

Ref. MILIA letter G/31 dated 4 Jun. 45.

1. I arrived in MILAN on 31 May, and was att. 2 District. When I received orders to set up separately, Maj. Edwards was in ROBE and Capt. O'Donnell in TURIN, on his return he went sick and still is so. Meanwhile it was necessary to give a good MILIA education both to District, Area and Territorial H.Q.s. My office is still at MENZA and my consultations take place at the GRAN TUNISMO Hotel, MILAN. Meanwhile I am trying to find an office and living accommodation in MILAN. I hope to set up within a week.

2. Main events in detail are set out in three appendices to this letter. But all activities are coloured and constrained by the fact that Fifth Army commands the area, and 2 District has no real authority. To Fifth Army this is a Comd. area. Only one person therefore gives orders, i.e. the C.G. Fifth Army. Van Kirk says 2 we will be run out of the Territory if we get giving orders." Our policy is therefore clear. Wherever a matter is purely Italian, MILIA N.W. Italy deals with it, and informs Van Kirk. Wherever buildings, materials, or any Allied interest is even slightly involved or likely to be involved, then Van Kirk's O.K. through Fifth Army is requested. There is a further point. This is also A.M.G. territory, and it is not considered that the Ministry of War has any authority here, vis-a-vis the Territorial H.Q. except on purely IWI-III matters. Therefore the Ministry of War cannot, for instance, order the publication of Proclamations, unless

on his return he went sick and still is so. Meanwhile it was necessary to give a good MILA education both to District, Area and Territorial H.Qs. My office is still at MONZA and my consultations take place at the GRAN TURISMO Hotel, MILAN. Meanwhile I am trying to find an office and living accommodation in MILAN. I hope to set up within a week.

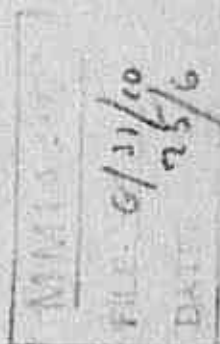
2. Main events in detail are set out in three appendices to this letter. But all activities are coloured and constrained by the fact that Fifth Army commands the area, and 2 District has no real authority. To Fifth Army this is a Comd. area. Only one person therefore gives orders, i.e. the C.G. Fifth Army. Van Kirk says 2 we will be run out of the Territory if we get giving orders. Our policy is therefore clear. Wherever a matter is purely Italian, MILA H.Q. Italy deals with it, and informs Van Kirk. Wherever buildings, materials, or any Allied interest is even slightly involved or likely to be involved, then Van Kirk's O.K. through Fifth Army is requested. There is a further point. This is also A.M.G. territory, and it is not considered that the Ministry of War has any authority here, vis-a-vis the Territorial H.Q. except on purely ITI-ITI matters. Therefore the Ministry of War cannot, for instance, order the publication of Proclamations, unless vetted and approved at Fifth Army.

3. Our activity is therefore concentrated on the following :-

(a) Watching and nursing the growth of Territorial H.Q. and establishing them as the Italian Military Authority in the area, and preventing them taking any "embarrassing" initiative.

(b) Earmarking suitable buildings and storage to set up Territorial Adm., e.g. H.Q. buildings, Commissariat storage including Cassernaggio, Engr. and Recovery Warehouses etc.

6749



25 030

SECRET

- 1 Gd. Regt.
- (c) Establishing communications.
 - (d) Helping 2 District with their "awkward baby", the unadministered
 - (e) Sorting with tact, Italian Military materials, housing them safely and making inventories.
 - (f) Gaining understanding of our problems and needs in all quarters, by friendly but not unilateral co-operation. And in fact talking to Tom, Dick and Harry.
 - (g) Helping the British Authorities to forward their plans for the Transit Leave Scheme.
 - (h) Hoping too many BRITISH Service troops will NOT be insinuated, before we can look after them.

4. Capts. Clark and Benatti have been briefed as above, and are now "activated". I am in full liaison on all matters with Maj. Van Kirk. Hopes are high that Capt. O'Donnell will again arise from his sick bed, and that soon an SF Officer and an ORD Officer will be able to tackle that urgent side of the business. Maj Edwards will be with us again on 24 June.

Maj.

Senior MIA L.O.

N.W. Italy.

Transit Leave Scheme.

(h) Hoping too many BRITISH Service troops will NOT be insinuated, before we can look after them.

4. Capts. Clark and Benatti have been briefed as above, and are now "activated". I am in full liaison on all matters with Maj. Van Kirk. Hopes are high that Capt. O'Donnell will again arise from his sick bed, and that soon an ST Officer and an ORD Officer will be able to tackle that urgent side of the business. Maj Edwards will be with us again on 24 June.

g/bid
Maj.

Senior MIA L.O.

N.W. Italy.

Copy to :- MIA L.O. Fifth Army.

MIA L.O. TURIN.

MIA L.O. c/o H.Q. 60 Sub Area.

6748

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

'G' Matters.

SECRET

Appx. 'A' to 2DLO/3/C/1

1. There is NO French problem, as their troops have returned to their own frontiers.
2. The Partisans are no longer a military problem. I understand that CHE beretta was handed in at TURIN, but generally the Partisans have withheld automatics, and still retain them. This, however, is a political problem, the inheritance of 20 years Fascism, and 1½ years intensive Republican-Nazi propaganda - in other words the armed "hooligans" behind the political party or in this case parties. A great result of the 1½ years intensive Republican-Nazi propaganda, is the disfavour towards Savoy. It sank in, remains and intensifies - and is to be found in all classes; even among Italian Officers, who are outwardly loyal. I don't want a State visit to this area.
3. Political Trials in MILAN have surprised observers by their justice. Twenty-six Fascists have been tried and only four sentenced to death. The occasion when BASILE, a Fascist chief, was given 20 years was marked by a procession in MILAN, with notices purporting that they wanted his head. They were a little turbulent outside the prison, but the CCRR supported by good type, freshly enrolled ex-Partisans, kept full control.
4. Unemployment is rife, owing to the lack of coal. GENOA harbour is still unopened and the unemployed are certain to get restive. At present they continue to receive full pay, and it's summer. The first chills of winter may stir them to activity. Then we may see some of the automatics that have NOT been handed in. I'm inclined to believe that not only the Communists have concealed weapons.
5. Political notices abound and propaganda abound. Even notices in support

result of the 1 1/2 years intensive Republican-Nazi propaganda, is the disavow

towards Savoy. It sank in, remains and intensifies - and is to be found in all classes; even among Italian Officers, who are outwardly loyal. I don't want a State visit to this area.

3. Political Trials in MILAN have surprised observers by their justice. Twenty-six Fascists have been tried and only four sentenced to death. The occasion when BASILE, a Fascist chief, was given 20 years was marked by a procession in MILAN, with notices purporting that they wanted his head. They were a little turbulent outside the prison, but the CCRR supported by good type, freshly enrolled ex-Partisans, kept full control.

4. Unemployment is rife, owing to the lack of coal. GENOA harbour is still unopened and the unemployed are certain to get restive. At present they continue to receive full pay, and it's summer. The first chills of winter may stir them to activity. Then we may see some of the automatics that have NOT been handed in. I'm inclined to believe that not only the Communists have concealed weapons.

5. Political notices abound and propaganda abound. Even notices in support of the Monarchy appear and no one tears them down. Many of Kesselrings posters also can still be seen. The paintings on bomb damaged buildings that used to read "House destroyed by the 'LIBERATORS' the Anglo-Saxon Assassins" are now being changed to "House sacrificed by the brutal fascists." There is little humour left.

6. I have been unable to make contact with Italian troops. But the general impression seems that where they have nothing to do, and the black market flourishes, their morale is good. They are not in great favour with the Allies, any more.

6747

'Q' Matters.

Appx. 'B' to 2DIO/3/2/1

1. The move of the Military Hospital to BAUDENRE accomplished, and all now happy.
2. The Caserne di Ugenio di Savoia has been vacated for use as British Leave Transit Camp.
3. The ~~Caserne di Ugenio di Savoia~~ *Magazzino Centrale VE.* is liable to lose one portion to British Leave Transit Camp. Remainder is separate, and forms extensive warehousing plus lifts for all types of stores. General agreement reached that this will be left undisturbed. We have there 42000 mess kits and several thousand sewing kits complete.
4. Part of the above barracks is the Engr. Store. This is full of all types of material, little of which is Italian Military. But the building will remain for Italian Military needs.
5. There is a demand for a suitable barracks for the S.A. in TUDIN. Capt. Clark has been approached and is co-operating over on that side.
6. Listing and checking materials proceed. But we have to tread carefully, as the dispute whose material is whose, has not been apparently yet been clarified. It would help if a decision could be made to the effect that at least clothing and personal equipment, even if manufactured as is probable, after the Armistice for the Republicans, reverts to the War Ministry. Otherwise disputes will be interminable.

10 2 9 3

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

A
M.A

undisturbed. We have there 42000 mess kits and several thousand sewing kits complete.

2-05433-0

4. Part of the above barracks is the Engr. Store. This is full of all types of material, little of which is Italian Military. But the building will remain for Italian Military needs.

5. There is a demand for a suitable barracks for the S.A. in TUNIS. Capt. Clark has been approached and is co-operating over on that side.

6. Listing and checking materials proceed. But we have to tread carefully, as the dispute whose material is whose, has not been apparently yet been classified. It would help if a decision could be made to the effect that at least clothing and personal equipment, even if manufactured as is probable, after the Armistice for the Republicans, reverts to the War Ministry. Otherwise disputes will be interminable.

6748

SECRET

'A' Points.

Appx. 'C' to ZELO/35/C/1

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

1. Enlisting of Partisans is going successfully. Ceilings will be achieved. Understand TURIN could take more than allotment.
2. The 1 Gd. Regt. will need 1,000 approx rfts. Can an indication please be given of the effect of desertion upon Service troops? 123 and 124 Par. Coys who have just arrived in MILAN are about 50% strength only.
3. According to the "Union Jack", Gen. CADORNA is persona grata with Field Marshal Alexander. Is there any truth in the TURIN rumour, that CADORNA has been made a Field Marshal of the British Army for his Partisan services? He seems to have handled the change over to the Italian Army with some skill, as there does not appear to be any animosity to the Army. I do notice, though, that the Italian Army in its manifestos here, refers to itself as "The Italian Army" and not the "The Royal Army". That seems a wise thing, as the Army must be away from politics. One of Gen. MARAS main planks is to avoid political "colour" or political discussion on "What is the Army (or Government) going to do for us."
4. The Repatriation Scheme from Germany seems to be going well, and I think for the time being, we can afford to watch Italian Army vehicles doing the job, as sufficient civilian vehicles are not available. We don't want a populace antagonised towards the Army. Meanwhile A.M.G. are doing their best to get more civilian vehicles on the road, and our chance will come without friction.
5. In general I feel the Italian Army has NO prestige here, but is not disliked, just considered ineffective. People are also still rather scared of the remains of the Partisan Movement. A few judicious boostings and publicisings of what the Italian Army has done this last year and a half would be useful. Its name occurs in local

have handled the change over to the Italian Army for his Partisan services? He seems to not appear to be any animosity to the Army. I do notice, though, that the Italian Army in its manifestos here, refers to itself as "The Italian Army" and not the "The Royal Army". That seems a wise thing, as the Army must be away from politics. One of Gen. MARAS main planks is to avoid political "colour" or political discussion on "What is the Army (or Government) going to do for us."

4. The Repatriation Scheme from Germany seems to be going well, and I think for the time being, we can afford to watch Italian Army vehicles doing the job, as sufficient civilian vehicles are not available. We don't want a populace antagonised towards the Army. Meanwhile A.M.G. are doing their best to get more civilian vehicles on the road, and our chance will come without friction.

5. In general I feel the Italian Army has NO prestige here, but is not disliked, just considered ineffective. People are also still rather scared of the remains of the Partisan Movement. A few judicious boostings and publicisings of what the Italian Army has done this last year and a half would be useful. Its name never occurs in local papers.

6745

10 2 9 6